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DOCUMENTS

I. The Interment of William Lovelace, New York, 1671.

THIS description of funeral solemnities in New York is of interest as presenting one of the earliest pictures of the social customs in the colony during the first decade of the control of the English, and is the only one of this character.¹

The pomp of the ceremony was due doubtless to the relationship with the family of the governor and also to the position of the two brothers Thomas and Dudley Lovelace in the colony. They held military offices in New York, and their names appear among the three signatures to the "Exact Account of all the Proceedings of the military officers of Fort James, from 28 July, 1673, to the surrender of the fort", which is in the Colonial Papers, Vol. XXX., number 52. Thomas Lovelace was one of the three men sent to the Dutch vessel to demand the cause of its coming into the harbor, and Dudley, together with Captain Manning, was in charge of the fort at the time of its surrender. References to both Thomas and Dudley appear in O'Callaghan's *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts*, II. As late as 1685 Thomas Lovelace was sheriff of Richmond county.

The document is among the Ashmolean Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, Volume 846, folio 54, number xi, and is written on both sides of a quarto sheet of seventeenth-century paper, in the hand of the period. It appears to be a memorandum of the occurrence, probably written in New York and sent or taken to England later, but by whom or under what circumstances there is no evidence. Neither is it clear how it came into the possession of Elias Ashmole, nor why it should have been bound in this volume, as it seems to have no relation to the documents on pedigrees, descent, and rolls of nobility there found. However, the papers

¹ This document will throw considerable light on the vexed question of the Lovelace genealogy. See *Lucasta. The Poems of Richard Lovelace, Esq., now first edited, and the Text carefully Revised. With some account of the Author*, by W. Carew Hazlitt, London, 1864, xii ff.; 218, note; 227, note; "Colonel Francis Lovelace and his Plantation on Staten Island", by Edward C. Delavan, Jr., in *Proceedings of the Natural Science Association of Staten Island*, Vol. VII., No. 15, pp. 47-79, March 10, 1900; "Lord Lovelace and the Second Canadian Campaign, 1708-1710", by General James Grant Wilson, in *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for 1891*, 269-272.—ED.

in this volume, as in many others of the Ashmolean collection, are of a miscellaneous character, treating of medicine, ecclesiastical rents, affairs of the exchequer, and other subjects. This fact doubtless explains why such a unique document should have been overlooked heretofore.

SUSAN M. KINGSBURY.

The funeral Solemnities at the Intermt^t of M^r W^m Lovelace at New Yorke in America 1671.

The manner of Exposing the Corps in the Roome before the Buriall

1—The Roome was very spacious and hung all about wth Mourning and Escootcheons thereupon of his Peternall Coate to the number of 30.

2—Round the sayd Roome were placed Turkey worke chayres richly wrought.

3. In the Middest of the Roome stood the Hearse with Sheete and Pall encompassed with 8. of his Paternall Escotcheons.

4. At the head a Pall of deaths heads and bones richly embroidered hung over as a Canopy.

5. Over the middle of the Herse a rich Garland hung adornd with black and white Satten ribbands and an hour Glasse impending.

6. At the feete a sheld 4 foote square cotes of Armes quartered and gloriously gilt which together wth the Garland remaines as a moniment in the Church to this day.

7. Round the hearse stood A black stand with Silver Candlestick wax Tap's and p'fumes burning night and day to the view of all people.

8. A Rich Cupbord of Plate worth 200ⁱⁱ:

9. 4: Attendants night and day.

10. The Partall or entry to the Roome was curiously adorned wth pictures Statues and other fancies in carved worke.

The ffunerall Procession.

1. The Capt: of the dead.

2. The Minister.

3. An Esq^r in mourning carrying the Sheild.

4. The 2: Preaching Ministers.

5. Two Maidens clothed in white silke carrying the Garland wth Cyprus Scarves and Gloves tyed with a whole peice with black and white Satten Ribband.

6. The Corps carryed by 6. Gentlemen Batchelers all in Mourning, with Skarves and Gloves.

7. The Pall held up by 6. virgins all in white Silke wth Cyprus Skarves and Gloves.

8. Tho : Lovelace Esq: father to the deceased and his Lady in close Mourning.

9. 4. Halbertes with velvet Coates and Badges thereon embroidered with his Creast of 40ⁱⁱ a Coate.

10. Coll : ffrancis Lovelace p'sent Governo^r of New Yorke and uncle to the deceased in close Mourning single.

11. Capt : Dudley Lovelace uncle also to the deceased in like mourning single.
12. The Councell all in Mourning.
13. The Mace with Maior and Aldermen in their black Gownes
14. The Principall Burgers of the City 2 : and 2.
15. All the English and Dutch Women 2 : and 2.
16. The cheife English and Dutch Men. 2 and 2.
17. All Masters of Shipps and Vessells.
18. All the other English and Dutch men. 2. and 2. to the number of 500. the greatest p't of them in black.

Wines sweet meats and Bisketts and such Services till 10. at night.

At the entrance of the ffort stood his Royall hignesse's Company of Guards with Colours furl'd Drums beating a ffunerall March and afterwards severall great Gunn's fired thence.

At the Intermt of the Corps 30. peices of Ordnance more fired.

2. A Letter of Benjamin Franklin, 1775.

THE following letter of Franklin was discovered by me in a volume of the Continental Congress Papers containing "Letters of John Hancock and Miscellaneous Papers". Franklin had acknowledged the receipt of the Petition to the King in a letter to Thomson, dated February 5, 1775, a letter which was unsigned, and is now among the so-called Thomson Papers in the New York Historical Society. This second letter on the Petition, also unsigned, has escaped notice, although it is wholly in Franklin's well-known writing. Even the clerk in the Secretary's office who at a later day indorsed or docketed the paper was strangely ignorant of its origin, for he wrote: "Letter, March 19, 1775. Anonymous from London to C: Thomson, Esq." Indeed the year of the indorsement looks more like 1795 than 1775. The original is in the Papers of the Continental Congress, Volume 58, folio 343, now in the Library of Congress.

WORTHINGTON CHAUNCEY FORD.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TO CHARLES THOMSON.

LONDON, March 13, 1775

Dear Sir,

I have some Thoughts of going with Osborne¹; but as I may be disappointed in that, I write a few Lines, to acquaint you, that the Petition of the Congress has lain upon the Table of both Houses ever since it was sent down to them among the Papers that accompany'd it from above, and has had no particular Notice taken of it; our Petition to be heard in support of it, having been, as I wrote you before, rejected with Scorn in the Commons; which must satisfy the future Congress that nothing is to be expected here from that Mode of Application.

¹ Captain Osborne, of the *Pennsylvania Packet*, with whom Franklin went to Philadelphia later in this month.